SPECIES OF THE SUB-FAMILY LANGURIDES CONTAINED IN THE CIVIC MUSEUM OF GENOA BY REV. H. S. GORHAM F. Z. S.

The following is an account of a large collection of Languriides in the Genoa Civic Museum sent to me for determination by Dr. Gestro, who at the same time very obligingly entrusted to me many of the types of Harold's descriptions. Without these it would have been a very uncertain matter to refer them to the genera I have endeavoured to form, for careful and analytical as Baron Von Harold's descriptions undoubtedly are, he has not attempted to group the species by the same characters that I have adopted. The numerous species in the East with red thoraces and red or black heads, and red or black bodies, apart from the characters given in the diagnosis of the genera are very perplexing; but with their aid, the uncertainty is, I venture to hope, reduced to very narrow limits.

A paper on the fine collection made by Herr Dohrn in Sumatra will appear almost simultaneously at Stettin and we shall now have a fair knowledge of the species of this subfamily occurring in the Malayan archipelago.

Camptocarpus longicollis, Mots., Gorh. Biol. C. Am., Vol. VIII, p. 6.

Bolivia; Rio Beni, La Paz, Reyes (Balzan). Teretilanguria kirschi, Crotch., Cist. Ent., I, p. 394. Dint. di Parà. (Gribodo).

Goniolanguria latipes, Saunders, Gorh. Biol. C. Am., VIII, p. 1. Rio Janeiro. (Rev. Cogliolo).

Trapezidera semiotina, Gorh. Biol. C. Am., VIII, p. 4. Nicaragua, Managua (Solari). Tetralanguria elongata, Fabr., Crotch., Gorh. P. Z. S. 1887, p. 364. Sumatra, Sungei Bulu (O. Beccari); Pangherang Pisang, Si Rambé, Mentawei, Sipora, Si-Oban (Modigliani). Sikkim, Mungphu (Atkinson); Java, Preanger. Lacertobelus n. gen. longimanus, Gorh., n. sp. I. Mentawei, Si-Oban, Sipora (Modigliani). L. dentipes, n. sp., Sumatra, Pangherang Pisang, Si Rambé (Modigliani). Languriosoma thoracica, n. sp. New Guinea, Fly River (L. M. D'Albertis). Anadastus, Gorham, P. Z. S. Lond. 1887, p. 362; Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen., (2) XVI (XXXVI), 1896, p. 270. Anadastus nigrinus, Wiedem., Gorh., l. c. Sumatra, Pangherang Pisang (Modigliani). Var. Padang (Modigliani). Anadastus wiedemanni, Gorh., l. c., p. 271. India, N. W. Provinces (Mungphu e Mus. Calcutta). Anadastus gratus, Gorh., l. c., p. 274. New Guinea, Ighibirei, Hula (Loria); Sumatra, Si Rambé (Modigliani); Celebes, Menado (O. Beccari). Anadastus lorianus, Gorh., n. sp. New Guinea, Ighibirei, Dilo, Paumomu River (Loria) Anadastus menadensis, Crotch. Sumatra, Ajer Mantcior (Beccari); Si Rambé, Pangherang Pisang (Modigliani). Anadastus distinguendus, Gorh., n. sp. I. Mentawei, Sipora (Modigliani). Anadastus nigriventris, Gorh., Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen., (2) XVI (XXXVI), 1896, p. 275. Sumatra, Pangherang Pisang, Pea Ragia (Modigliani). Anadastus karenicus, Gorh., Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen., (2) XVI (XXXVI), 1896, p. 272. Sumatra, Pangherang Pisang (Modigliani). Anadastus gagaticeps, Gorh., n. sp.

Sumatra, Si Rambé (Modigliani).

Stenodastus, Gorh., P. Z. S., 1887, p. 362; Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen., (2) XVI (XXXVI), 1896, p. 268.

Stenodastus servuia, Harold.

Ins. Aru, Wokan (Beccari); New Guinea, Vaikunina, Dilo, Ighibirei (Loria).

Dasydactylus, sp. ?

Bolivia (Balzan).

Dasydactylus solarii, n. sp.

Nicaragua, Managua (Solari).

Caenolanguria, Gorham, P. Z. S., 1887, p. 361; Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen., (2) XVI (XXXVI), 4896, p. 265.

Caenolanguria papuensis, Gorh.

New Guinea, Fly River (L. M. D'Albertis); R. Paumomu, Ighibirei, Port Moresby, Hughibagu, Kelesi (Loria); Ins. Aru, Wokan (O. Beccari).

Caenolanguria violaceipennis, Harold.

New Guinea, Fly River (L. M. D'Albertis).

Caenolanguria papuana, Harold.

New Guinea, Kelesi (L. Loria).

Crotchia fusiformis, Gorh., n. sp.

Paraguay, Puerto 14 de Mayo (Boggiani).

Crotchia balzanii, Gorh. n. sp.

Bolivia, La Paz, Reyes, Rio Beni (Balzan).

NOTES AND DESCRIPTION OF NEW SPECIES AND GENERA.

Tetralanguria elongata, Fab., Gorh. Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen., (2) XVI (XXXVI), 1896, p. 259; Kraatz, Deuts. Ent. Zeits., 1899, p. 347.

Dr. Kraatz arrives at a different conclusion to myself about the specific value of the various forms of this insect, which occur in localities as widely separated as the North Western frontier of India, Burma, Cambodia, the peninsula of Malacca, Java, Sumatra, Borneo etc. I have studied an enormous number of specimens and there are now before me about seventy of the

elongata type from Sumatra (Dohrn) varying in length from 40 to 17 millim, and showing great variability in proportionate breadth, and in that of the thorax, and at the shoulders; a series of these were also sent from Sungei Bulu, Ajer Mantcior by Dr O. Beccari, and from Pangherang Pisang, Si Rambé, etc. by Modigliani. There are before me also about thirty specimens of a very much broader form' with the thorax aeneous and apparently more bulky and convex, these are from Sumatra Sinagong Bekantiang (C. Dohrn), they are also sent by Beccari from Ajer Mantcior. These also vary in size and on closely looking at them it will be seen the thorax tends to become red, and the smaller examples are more parallel. From the Island of Mentawei comes a remarkably distinct looking form, the thorax having an aeneous vitta, the legs partly red with dark knees (as they are in the var. with the thorax aeneous, but there are other examples from Sumatra with an aeneous vitta or slight cloud etc.), and I have already expressed the opinion that colour variations are of no use in such a plainly variable insect. The form L. tripunctata, Wiedem. has at first sight great claims as a species, and I do not doubt that it is a local form, and do not expect to meet with it far South. It is a mountain form, but it will be seen that the lateral spot on the thorax, is only an extension of the median vitta, while the coarser punctuation, is most variable and uncertain. Of four specimens from Sikkim (Mungphu) in the Genoa Museum, now before me, two have narrower thoraces which are at the same time more thickly but more finely punctured, these may be the males; but neither in the eyes, or the relative length of the joints of the antennae, nor in the legs, nor in the structure of any part can I see a good specific character.

It would be too long here to discuss other remarkable forms of which I have seen numerous examples, and I admit it is a matter of opinion, but I must remark Dr. Kraatz's species now described from the Naga Hills, are mainly founded on colour distinctions, and that they are founded on few and in some instances on unique examples, and I doubt will ultimately prove to be varieties; and that to associate other examples from other Hills in India with these will prove a very difficult task. I desire only to arrive at the truth, and confess the doubt I feel in differing from an acknowledged authority, but I feel at present quite unrepentant.

Lacertobelus, genus novum.

Oculi tenuiter reticulati. Epistoma prominulum quasi tubuliferum. Corpus subulatum, prothorace oblongo, antice valde convexo, postice depressiusculo striolis basalibus nullis, lateribus marginatis, prosternum ad apicem truncatum. Elytra apicem versus multo angustata apice ipso subtruncato, minute denticulato, extus mucronato, stria humerali ad basim valde impressa. Lineis abdominatibus nullis.

Pedes longi, anterioribus praesertim perlongis (maris) femoribus anticis intus dente parvo acuto et carinulis duabus infra dentem elevatis, inter quas tibia tenuis recepta est. Antennae tenues haud longae, quam capite thoraceque breviores, articulis sex ultimis gradatim crassioribus, articulo tertio quam quarto haud multo longiore. Tarsis haud ailatatis, subtus spongiosis haud ciliatis.

I propose this name for a very extraordinary form of Languriides. It is the only instance yet known to me in that subfamily in which the front legs are toothed. These front legs are also of extraordinary length, bringing the genus near Oxylanguria and Fatua. The structure of the epistome is also wholly unique in the Languriides for in the male it is not only finely excised but compressed and raised so as to form a sort of tubular rostrum.

1. Lacertobelus dentipes, n. sp.

Elongatus, elytris postice valde attenuatis, subulatis; saturate rufus, superne nigro-viridis vel nigro-caeruleus, antennis pedibusque nigris, his basi, illis articulis sex basalibus rufis, capite antice rufo, crebre ac fortiter, prothorace parce minute punctatis; elytris fortiter punctato-striatis, stria humerali ad basim valde impressa, corpore subtus fore laevi. — Long. 8-9 mill. \mathcal{J} . \mathcal{Q} . Mas, pedibus anticis perlongis, femoribus tenuibus, intus, infra medium dente acuto, et apicem propiore canaliculatis et bicarinatis, epistomate antice producto quasi rostrato.

Hab. Sumatra, Liangagas, Soekaranda (Dohrn); Pangherang Pisang, Si Rambé (Modigliani).

The general colour of this insect is dark blackish-green above, bloodred beneath. The head is strongly and thickly punctured, sometimes the front of the head is red, but in others it is metallic green or nearly black. The thorax is half as long again as wide, very convex and widest in the middle, much more sparsely and obsoletely punctured than the head (but more thickly punctured in the examples from Si Rambé) there are a few scattered larger punctures towards the base and the striolae are only represented by two deeper punctures. The elytra are impressed with series of large squarish but irregularly shaped punctures, their base is subdepressed, and the shoulders are tumid, with a deep stria extending about a quarter of the length of the elytra, and externally the marginal stria is very deeply impressed under the shoulder. The antennae do not reach from the eye beyond the middle of the thorax, the joints from the third to the sixth are elongate and subequal, but the sixth and seventh are triangularly slightly widened, the last four form a rather lax club.

The labial palpi are very small, scarcely visible except by dissection, with a triangular apical joint; the maxillary palpi, have their apical joint, as long as the basal part, quite subulate. They are piceous in this species. The apex of the elytra have three minute denticulations, besides the very minute external mucro. These can only be seen under a good quarter-inch focus lens.

The examples I regard as female, have shorter legs and the femora are thicker and not toothed nor grooved, the epistoma is not produced, nor in any way abnormal but is cut out in an arc.

The elytra in these examples have four or five denticulations and a more distinct mucro. There are specimens of both sexes from both Liangagas and Soekaranda.

2. Lacertobelus longimanus, n. sp.

L. dentipedi affinis at major, rufo-piceus, nitidus elytris nigroviridibus vel caeruleis, antennis nigris articulo basali rufo, pedibus piceis, basi rufis. — Long. 8-10 millim. \mathcal{P} . Q.

Mas, pedibus anticis pertongis, femoribus tenuibus haud vel vix dentato, tubercuto parvo tantum intus prebentibus, epistomate antice producto, quasi rostrato.

Hab. Sumatra (Wallace); Soekaranda (Dohrn); I. Mentawei, Si-Oban, Sipora (Modigliani); S. E. Borneo, Martapura (Doherty).

This species appears to be distinct from L. dentipes by the fact that although some male specimens are larger and well developed, the femora are not toothed, but only exhibit a fine sinuation with a slight tubercular elevation at the same place as the acute tooth in L. dentipes, indeed I cannot in all males even see this. The front legs are very long indeed, as long or longer than the body. The head and thorax are rufo-piceous, nearly smooth in some, more thickly and distinctly punctured in others.

The epistoma is produced as in *L. dentipes*, the thorax is of the same form, and very convex (in the male), but in the small example from Borneo, it is much more distinctly and deeply punctured, and this example is only six millimetres long, and possibly represents a distinct species. The elytra are almost precisely as in *L. dentipes*, but their bluer colour, which is correlated with the more rufous head and thorax, is possibly due to less maturity. The darker examples from Sumatra however have the head and thorax rufo-piccous.

Languriosoma.

Languriosoma, Crotch, Rev. Erotyl. Cist. Ent. 1876, p. 379; Gorh., P. Z. S. Lond. 1887, p. 361; Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen., (2) XVI (XXXVI), 1896, p. 265.

3. Languriosoma thoracica, n. sp.

Cunciformis; capite prothorace, mesosterno, scutelloque saturate sanguineis, antennis pedibusque nigris, elytris cyaneis, abdomine nigro-piceo vel saturate rufo; capite prothoraceque minute obsolete et parcius punctatis. — Long. 9-11 millim. \mathcal{J} , \mathcal{Q} .

Mas. prothorace valde ampliato, subrotundato, femoribus anticis intus asperatis.

Femina, prothorace minus ampliato, distinctius punctato, pedibus anticis brevioribus.

Hab. New Guinea, Fly River (L. M. D'Albertis).

This insect is very like, and uearly allied to *L. cyanipennis*, Crotch of which the type is before me, but differs from it in having the scutellum red and the abdomen is not quite black, and in fresher examples is dark red. *L. cyanipennis*, Cr. is described from a unique example apparently a male, but the front femora are not roughened as in our specimens nor are the sides of the abdomen in *L. thoracica*, so coarsely punctured.

The head and thorax are very finely and extremely obsoletely punctured, the latter subglobose, more constricted at the base than in *C. cardiophoroides*, Cr. (which it also a little resembles). The front legs of the male are very long. The legs are all nearly black, but often pitch-red at their bases, and the front pair are sometimes pitchy. The scutellum is distinctly red, but may be pitchy in the more fully matured specimens. The elytra are steel-blue with distinct series of large punctures, the interstices are smooth but the punctures often are joined by transverse plicae, causing (especially near their base) a slight rugosity; their apices are truncate and mucronate on each side, the external mucro being, however, much the more distinct.

Seven examples were sent, all obtained by Sig. L. M. D'Albertis in 1876-77.

The abdominal lines in this genus are clear, parallel, raised and in this species extend about half across the segment.

4. Anadastus lorianus, n. sp.

Languriae insulari, Har. a/finis et summà simititudine, major; niger, capite prothoraceque rufis, crebre ac minute vix visibiliter punctatis, oculis haud prominentibus tennissime granulatis; pro-

thorax subquadratus, haud longior quam latus, lateribus sinuatis in medio latissimis, striola basali brevi distincta. Elytra nigrocaerulea tenuiter punctato-striata, interstitiis laevibus, apice mutico, tantum subtruncato; subtus minute distincte punctatus, lineis abdominalibus subparallelis, pone medium segmenti prolongatis, pectore abdominisque basi nonnumquam rufo-piceis. — Long. 9-9.5 millim.

Hab. New Guinea, Ighibirei, Dilo, Paumomu R. (Loria); Mysol (Wallace).

The head is fairly large, the antennae and palpi entirely black, the second to the fifth joints longer than wide, the sixth and seventh about as long as wide, the rest transverse forming the club in the usual way. The eyes are quite finely facetted, and not so convex as in the allied species (this character will easily separate A. lorianus from C. papuensis, violaceipennis), but is similar in A. insularis. Harold does not mention the distinctions to be found in the eyes, which however afford a very critical character.

The thorax is as long as wide, distinctly though finely punctate, and the head is similarly punctate (this character will distinguish it from the *Caenolanguriae* which have the thorax quite or nearly glabrous) the front angles are a little depressed, the base is rather narrower than the front, the transverse depression not very distinct with a few scattered larger punctures, the striolae short but clearly marked almost as in *C. violaceipennis*. The elytra are almost the same as in *C. coarctata* and *C. violaceipennis*, they are hardly truncate, but are still straight at the tip, as in many *Anadasti*.

In the type of *A. insularis* (now before me) they are quite black clearly truncate, and the series of linear punctures are extremely fine, whereas in *A. loriunus* they are rather distinct, and much more deeply impressed at the sides. The abdominal lines are clear, raised and parallel running more than half across the segment.

5. Anadastus haroldi, n. sp.

Niger, elytris atrocyaneis ad anicem attenuatis, capite glabro, antennarum articulis secundo ad sextum distincte longioribus quam

latis, clava quinque-articulata prothorace quadrato subcordato, minute punctulato fere laevi, elytris distincte ac fortiter punctatostriatis, humeris parum elevatis, apicibus truncatis. — Long. 8 millim.

Hab. New Guinea, Dorey, Batchian (Wallace).

This insect is so similar to Languria atrocyanea, Har. with the type of which now before me I compare it as readily to be confused with it. That insect however has coarse eyes, and pertains to my genus *Caenolanguria*. A. haroldi has the eyes very finely facetted. The antennae have the joints from the second to the sixth elongate, whereas in *L. atrocyanea*, they are short. The thorax is as long as wide in the widest part, the sides are sinuate, and narrower at the base than in front, the striola is represented by a triangular pit, and the antescutellar lobe is strongly punctured, the disk is minutely but quite distinctly punctulate; the scutellum is flat and impunctate.

The elytra are dark steel-blue, the striae are composed of lines of almost confluent linear punctures, the sutural stria is rather deeply impressed at the base and has the punctures there quite confluent, the subhumeral stria is very deeply impressed, the interstices are smooth; the apex is quite distinctly truncate and sub-mucronate externally.

This insect is also very similar in colour to *L. picea*, Har. and to *L. nigroaenea*, Crotch. But the fine eyes and truncate elytra, are sufficient for its diagnosis, apart from the other generic characters.

There are two specimens from Dorey and one from Batchian in my collection.

6. Anadastus karenicus, Gorh., Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen., (2) XVI (XXXVI), 1896, p. 272.

Hab. Sumatra, Pangherang Pisang (Modigliani).

Two examples taken by E. Modigliani in 1890-1891, absolutely agree with the species described by me from Burma. They have dark blue elytra, more parallel than those of *A. gagaticeps*, and the thorax has a black mark on the front margin, not very well defined and angular behind.

L. metanocephalus (Dej.), Harold is obviously a different species from either this or A. capitatus, having according to Harold a distinctly 4-jointed club, and coarsely granulated eyes, and is certainly not an Anadastus. It is from Java.

A. karenicus, differs from its allies in many minute but very evident points of structure. The antennae have a laxly articulated 5-jointed club. If we compare these joints with the corresponding ones in A. gagaticeps, it will be seen that they have the four last nearly equally wide and not very much wider than the eighth joint in A. gagaticeps; the whole club is wider and more widened from base to apex, so that the two penultimate joints are three times as wide as joint seven. The thorax is dark ferruginous red; it is less contracted at the base, and so squarer than in A. gagaticeps, and is less convex. The abdomen is almost smooth in the middle, only the two basal segments are at all clearly punctured, and that at the sides.

I was surprised to find it coming from Sumatra, but experience shows me, that these insects are not so local as is sometimes asserted.

7. Anadastus gagaticeps, n. sp.

A. karenico, Gorh. summa similitudine et valde affinis, major, elytris postice magis attenuatis; niger capite profunde crebre punctato, infra cum prothorace testaceo-rufo, hoc minute vix visibiliter punctato, fere transverso, margine antico concolori; elytris submetallico-viridibus apicibus subtruncatis, corpore subtus glabro, abdomine parce distincte punctato, lineis ventralibus longis distinctis, haud multo approximatis. — Long. 6-7 millim.

Hab. Sumatra, Si Rambé (Modigliani).

This differs from *A. karenicus*, Gorh. by the larger size, by the elytra being of a green metallic tint, narrowed towards their apex, by the anterior margin of the prothorax being concolorous; and by the prothorax being perhaps a little shorter (it is in most cases certainly a little wider than long), and by the abdomen being (in those examples I have examined) clearly, though sparsely and not deeply punctate.

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A. gagaticeps is allied to and resembles A. cuneiformis, Crotch, with which it agrees in having the thorax of a whitish-yellow colour, rather short and convex, but the club of the antennae in A. cuneiformis is even broader, and in A. gagaticeps the elytra are green. In both these species the elytra are very distinctly narrowed from the shoulders to the apex, but in A. cuneiformis, of which the type is before me and an example which I refer to it from Sarawak (Wallace) the elytra are blue, and the latter is larger, and the body beneath is red.

Dasydaetylus.

8. Dasydactylus, Gorham, Biol. C. Am., Vol. VII, p. 14, 1887. The Dasydactyli are exceedingly neat and graceful members of the Languriides, peculiar to the New World; having rather long legs, the front pair usually considerably lengthened in the males, and with the front tarsi widened and more hairy in that sex, and the front femora roughened on their inner sides in the males. More than 20 species are recorded in the Biologia from Central America, and they are also known to me, but mostly undescribed for want of material, from Colombia. The species are very closely allied, and the one now described, and which is the first species I have recognised as new since the completion of that work, is very nearly related to more than one species here described. The chief points to be attended to in the species of this genus are the punctuation of the head and thorax, the relative length of the latter, and its development in the male sex, the length and build of the antennae, and the form and sculpture of the elytra. The colour is generally black or pitchy or aeneous, and is not a safe character, nor do I think the size is much to be relied upon.

9. Dasydactylus solarii, n. sp.

D. picipedi, Gorh. similis et affinis, rufo-piceus nitidus supra aenescens, prothorace elytrisque ad latera subaeneo-virescentibus, capite prothoraceque subtilissime crebre punctatis, fere glabris, hoc elongato, basi depressiusculo, antennarum clava distincte quadri-

articulata, articulo septimo vix ampliato. — Long. 6-40 millim. \mathcal{J} . \mathcal{Q} .

Mas., prothorace longiore et antice parum convexiore, tarsis anticis latiusculis, nigro-hirtulis.

Hab. Nicaragua, Managua (A. Solari).

This species comes very near such species as *D. zunilensis* and *D. picipes* from Guatemala, but appears to differs from them, by the fact that the sexes are more alike than in either, the thorax of the male not being so much enlarged in front, also by the front femora in the male sex being apparently not roughened. The head and thorax are very smooth and shining in both sexes, only the most minute and obsolete punctuation being visible; in the male the thorax is not quite twice as long as wide, it is scarcely enlarged at all in front, the sides are nearly parallel, faintly sinuate, a little wider in the middle, the base is as wide as the front, but more depressed than in its near allies, a few larger punctures, and a small plicate fossa are to be observed along the basal transverse impression.

The elytra are smoother, and the punctures less confused than in *D. picipes*. The underside is very glabrous, rufo-piceous with the legs usually darker, except at their bases.

A very important distinction, exists in the structure of the seventh joint of the antennae which in D. *picipes* is obconic, angular at its inner apical edge, and so forming the commencement of a club, while here it is scarcely widened, so that the four last stand out as an independent club.

A very large series of examples were obtained by Mr. A. Solari varying a good deal in size but otherwise remarkably uniform.

Crotchia.

40. Crotchia, Fowler, Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. 1886, p. 305; Gorh., Biol. C. Am., VII, p. 28.

The species of the genus *Crotchia* inhabit Central and South America, and are readily recognised by their fusiform shape, coarsely grained eyes, and three jointed club. Mr. Fowler de-

scribed six species, and in the "Biologia Cent. Amer." I have described nine more, they are very closely allied and difficult of determination.

11. Crotchia fusiformis, n. sp.

Angustata, nigro-subaenea, nitida; capite et prothorace parce fortiter distincte punctatis, hoc subquadrato, angulis anticis distinctis vix reflexis; elytris leviter punctato-striatis, antennarum basi rufopicea. — Long. 5-8 millim.

Mas, abdominis segmentis tribus intermediis puncto duplici setigero munitis.

Hab. Paraguay, Puerto 14 de Mayo (Boggiani).

Head with rather prominent eyes, epistoma wide and slightly emarginate in front, rather more thickly punctured than the crown of the head, the latter deeply sparsely and distinctly punctate. Antennae rather long, the third to the sixth joints fusiform and apparently longer than they are in C. parallela, Fowler; one, two or three joints before the club are blackish, the basal joints are red. The thorax is nearly square, the sides margined by a thickened line, which (as in all the species I have seen) is a double line; the front angles are easily seen from above, the base very finely margined with an indistinct punctiform fossa a quarter of the breadth from the hind angles; the elytra are elongate for this genus, with very fine series of closely packed punctures; widest at the base, very gradually narrowed to the apex. The brassy colour in this species is distinct, but the whole insect, may be slightly piceous at times. It is very close to C. parallela, and to C. verae-pacis, Gorh. It is larger than my types of the former, less pitchy, less parallel, with rather longer antennae. There are eight examples all from Puerto 14 de Mayo.

12. Crotchia balzanii, n. sp.

Fusiformis, nigro-picea, nitida; capite parcius sed distincte, prothorace minute punctatis, hoc transverse subquadrato, basi utrinque foveolato; elytris in medio latioribus, tenuissime punctatostriatis, antennarum basi, pedibusque rufo-piceis. — Long. 5 millim. \mathcal{J} . \mathcal{Q} .

Mas, abdominis segmentis intermediis puncto duplici setigero munitis, antennis paullo longioribus.

Femina, antennis breviusculis.

Hab. Bolivia, La Paz-Reyes, Rio Beni (L. Balzan).

The form of the whole insect is fusiform, the widest part being at the middle of the elytra. The general colour is pitchy, the brassy tint being scarcely visible. The base of the antennae and the legs are pitchy-red. The thorax in this species is clearly wider than long; and its disk, is very convex distinctly but very finely punctate; the base is depressed, and its margin a little reflexed, and on each side has a shallow and punctiform fossa. The front angles are distinct from above, and turn a little outwards.

The elytra are widest about the middle, they have the sutural stria deepened near their apices, the series of points are most faintly impressed, and the interstices smooth, and scarcely punctured. This insect is very close indeed to *C. polita*, Gorh. from Panama, it is however distinct; the thorax being wider, less cordate and more clearly punctured, the examples now before me are also on the average smaller.

It is obviously difficult to form an opinion, as to whether such closely allied species are absolutely distinct; that they are so morphologically renders it necessary to record their differences; and where they occur in countries as far apart as Bolivia and Panama, under different names. The ultimate test of whether they could interbreed cannot be applied, till it is shewn that both forms occur in the same district. And after all they are not more closely allied than Old world species of many genera, which even occur together.